CLAIMS

I claim:

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1. A ratcheting spud wrench, comprising:

a shaft having an elongate main body with a fastener gripping end, a hole aligning end, a top surface and a bottom surface:

a generally flat oval aligning portion disposed on said hole aligning end adapted for passing through bolt receiving flange holes of interconnecting steel structural beams for aligning the flange holes of the interconnecting beams so that a single bolt may pass through the flange holes of the interconnecting beams; and

a ratchet head disposed on said fastener gripping end having a center through hole for receiving a bolt and a bolt fastener, and a gripping portion disposed around the periphery of said center through hole for gripping the bolt fastener;

whereby said shaft is turnable to apply torque to the bolt fastener to tighten or loosen the bolt positioned inside of the aligned holes of the steel beams so that a separate ratcheting wrench is not necessary when aligning and securing interconnecting steel beams.

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD. P.O. BOX 15035 ARLINGTON, VA 22215 (703) 486-1000 2. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, wherein the width of said main body is larger at said fastener engaging end than at said hole aligning end so that as you move along said main body from said fastener engaging end to said hole aligning end the width of said main body continuously increases.

- 3. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, further comprising an elongate, milled slot extending along said bottom surface of said main body.
- 4. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 3, further comprising a magnetic strip disposed inside of said milled slot.
- 5. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, further comprising a reaming portion having a plurality of cutting edges for reaming holes.
- 6. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 5, further comprising a hole sizing collar slidably disposed along said main body to prevent said reaming portion from reaming a hole beyond a specific point.

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The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, wherein said ratchet head is magnetized to improve gripping of fasteners.

- The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, wherein 8. said gripping portion comprises a plurality of gripping teeth.
- The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 1, wherein said gripping portion comprises a four sided square gripping portion.
- The ratcheting head according to claim 1, wherein said gripping portion comprises an eight sided octagonal gripping portion.
- The ratcheting head according to claim 1, further 11. comprising a wrench stop collar for preventing the ratchet head from slipping off of the fastener held by said gripping portion.
- 12. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 11, wherein said wrench stop collar comprises a circular plate having a center through hole disposed on a top surface of said ratchet head.

- 14. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 11, wherein said collar is removably secured to said ratchet head.
- 15. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 13, wherein said collar is welded onto said ratchet head.
- 16. The ratcheting spud wrench according to claim 13, wherein said collar is secured to said ratchet head by a chemical adhesive.

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